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(c) whether it is a fact that some sluices proposed to be opened have been delayed to be opened indefinitely;

(d) whether it is a fact that the assessment of water-rate is uneven under this project; and

(e) whether it is a fact that this project is working at a profit; if so, what the rate of interest realized on the capital outlay is?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information.

(*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*c*) of question No. 298 answered on 30th October 1935.

(*e*) The information is not available as separate Capital and Revenue accounts are not kept for the project.

Mr. T. NARSA REDDI:—"With reference to the answer to clauses (*a*) to (*c*) in view of the fact that there is a large number of complaints from the ryots, will the Government be pleased to call for the information?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Sir, I do not hear."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Will the Hon. Member make himself more audible?"

Mr. T. NARASA REDDI:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the information?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Sir, I think the public should approach the Public Works Department authorities or the Revenue authorities in this matter."

Alleged silting up of the Kaveripauk tank in the North Arcot district.

* 682 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the capacity and extent of the ayacut under the Kaveripauk tank and the income thereunder;

(*b*) whether, and how many times, it has gone dry during the past 20 years;

(*c*) the extent of the silt in the tank and when it was removed for the last time; and

(*d*) the extent of money spent for the removal of silt each year during the last ten years?

A.—(*a*) Capacity, 1,474 million cubic feet.
Ayacut, 5,959 acres.
Income, Rs. 48,974.

(*b*) The tank was never found to be dry in the rainy season, but it gets dry almost every year in the summer, i.e., for some time between the months of April and September, the usual rainy season for the locality and the Palar being from October to December.

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(*c*) & (*d*) The depth of silt in the deep bed above the level of the lowest sluice was said to be 12 feet even from the year 1853. The average deep bed is now found to be 14 feet above the sill of the lowest sluice. No silt clearance in the tank appears to have been done for deepening the bed.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" In view of the fact that the tank is silted up very considerably, have the Government ever considered the question of restoring the original position? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Not that I am aware of. I must however controvert that statement of my hon. Friend. The depth has increased only two feet since 1853."

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" May I know from the Hon. the Revenue Member, having regard to the condition of these tanks like Kaveripauk and Mamandur in the North Arcot district, whether Government will be pleased to instruct the tank restoration parties to include the removal of silt from these tanks in their programme of works? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" That question has been raised and the technical opinion is that the removal of silt in those tanks is not a desirable matter. The proper course is to increase the supply and heighten the bund and not to attempt to clear the silt. That is the technical opinion on the matter."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" If the depth of the silt has increased by two feet, how much does it mean in the reduction of the capacity of the tank?

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Notice."

Land Revenue Administration

Intimation of impending transfers in the case of Deputy Collectors.

* 683 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the I.C.S. officers are ordinarily consulted or at least intimated allowing sufficient time before they are transferred from one station to another;

(*b*) whether the same privilege is allowed to Deputy Collectors and other gazetted officers; and

(*c*) if the reply be in the negative, why they are not shown such courtesy?

A.—(*a*) I.C.S. officers are not consulted before they are transferred from one station in the Presidency to another. Orders of transfer are ordinarily communicated to them as soon as a decision is made. The rules provide for joining time including time for preparation for all officers.

(*b*) & (*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 642.